

Jordan Times

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AMMAN, THURSDAY MAY 10, 1979 — JAMADI AL THANI 12, 1399

Sharaf meets U.S. congressmen

WASHINGTON, May 9 (JNA)—Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf met in Washington last night with members of the House of Representatives Foreign Relations Committee for an exchange of views on the Middle East question and the bases of establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the area. He also discussed with the members, Jordanian-U.S. relations in the presence of the Jordanian ambassador in Washington, Mr. Abdullah Salah. Earlier today, Sharif Abdul Hamid met with journalists and TV correspondents to brief them on the latest Middle East developments and explain Jordan's keenness and that of the Arab states to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. Sharif Abdul Hamid was scheduled to meet tonight with U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance for a working dinner.

Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

to use troops during election

May 9 (R)—The Italian government today decided to use help guard key institution against guerrilla attacks, Minister Attilio Ruffini announced. The decision was meeting of the interministerial committee for public safety chaired by Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti. Proposals for the armed forces to help protect key personalities and during the election campaign followed last week's bombs attack on the Rome office of the ruling Democratic Party. One policeman was shot dead and critically wounded in the attack, which was carried out in of the Red Brigades, Italy's most feared urban guerrilla

S., USSR conclude ALT II agreement

WASHINGTON, May 9 (R)—The United States today announced basic agreement with the Soviet Union on a Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT) and said it would be signed at a summit between presidents Carter and Leonid Brezhnev.

at which the two also try to improve relations, is expected to be signed in western Europe by the end of the year. The treaty, known as SALT II, is the most important yet to limit the arms race. It was announced at the Secretary of State's news conference. "With this treaty, we have taken an essential step toward a more secure and stable world," Secretary of State Harold Brown said. "The treaty is a landmark in the history of arms control."

Egypt, Israel differences on autonomy underlined

CAIRO, May 9 (AP)—A high-ranking Egyptian diplomat says the return of East Jerusalem to Arab rule will figure prominently in forthcoming negotiations with Israel and the United States over Palestinian autonomy.

Dr. Butros Ghali, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, said in an interview with the Akher Saa weekly magazine published here today that the negotiations which are to start on May 24 also aim at "transferring authority as a whole to the Palestinians" after the five-year interim period.

Iran's officials in Iran

May 9 (R)—Iran's authorities today announced the return of former officials of the Shah to Iran. The return of these officials is part of a plan published Tuesday by the Islamic Republic of Iran to transfer authority to the Islamic Republic.

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Dr. Ghali stated that the negotiations, which will work on the basis of five principles: —The interim period aims at guaranteeing the transferring of authority as a whole to the Palestinians. —Helping the Palestinians establish and develop political organizations for self-expression leading to self-determination. —The West Bank and Gaza area comprise all the villages and towns that Israel has occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem which must be returned to Arab sovereignty.

—The elected Palestinian council (that will be set up within a year for that area) must enjoy all the rights of the full autonomy administration.

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19 killed, 38 wounded in El Salvador violence

SAN SALVADOR, May 9 (AP)—Leftist gunmen who have held San Salvador's Roman Catholic cathedral since last Friday fought a gunbattle with security forces in front of the church last night. Initial Red Cross reports today said at least 19 people were killed and at least 38 were wounded. Some eyewitnesses reported a higher toll.

Rioting also broke out last night when members of the Popular Revolutionary Bloc burned several buses in San Salvador and neighbouring towns, police reported.

Leftist gunmen of the bloc seized the cathedral on Friday soon after comrades took over the French and Costa Rican embassies to demand the release of five of their jailed leaders.

The battle erupted shortly after a demonstration called by members of the bloc fizzled out. But groups of leftist went into the streets and snipers opened fire when security forces approached the cathedral area.

Eye witnesses reported seeing several dead bodies on the streets but Red Cross officials, who were allowed inside the cathedral area hours after the shooting, said that they evacuated at least 30 injured, nine of them in critical condition. Three gunmen remained holed up at the Costa Rican embassy after Costa Rican Ambassador Julio Esquivel and four other hostages

Jordan suspends bilateral trade pact with Egypt

AMMAN, May 9 (AP)—Jordan has suspended its bilateral trade agreement with Egypt and the preferential treatment accorded to Egyptian goods under the Arab Common Market.

Egypt's membership in the Common Market has been suspended and the other three member countries—Syria, Iraq and the Libyan Jamahiriya, are expected to take similar measures.

Finance Minister Mohammed Debbas yesterday told all customs posts in the country that all Egyptian goods were now subject to normal customs duties.

Under the Common Market agreement, goods imported by a member state from another country party to the agreement received preferential treatment which was reflected in a high percentage reduction to the customs duties.

The Jordanian measure is believed to be in retaliation for the signing by Egypt of a peace treaty with Israel.

On Monday a defence order banned all Egyptian newspapers from entering Jordan and stopped the import of films produced by the Egyptian public sector or by any company of the private sector which may have dealings with Israel.

Syria, Kuwait, Qatar attack Israel, Egypt at Manila meet

MANILA, May 9 (R)—Syria today accused Israel of disrupting economic development in the Middle East and North Africa by posing a permanent threat of military aggression.

Syria's director of international organisations, Mr. Mustapha Al Bitar, appealed to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) for support to achieve "peace and progress" in the area.

After emphasising that countries in the Middle East and North Africa must cooperate to bring greater development to the area, the Syrian delegate attacked Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's recent peace treaty with Israel.

He said the treaty did not bring the Middle East closer to peace. "People believe this treaty is an attempt to enshrine Israeli occupation of Arab territory," he added.

The 159-country conference, the biggest trade talks ever held, is meeting for four weeks to seek a new international economic order to give poorer countries a chance

to improve their position in world trade.

Kuwait's ambassador to the U.N. in Geneva, Mr. Hassan Dabbagh, also attacked the peace treaty. He said the Middle East was still suffering the effects of the Palestinians' loss of their homeland. This affected the welfare, security and development of the area.

Any attempted solution must include all affected parties, involve self-determination for the Palestinian people, and must reject the principle of land being held by force of arms.

"Any solution not based on these is doomed to failure—like the last agreement reached between Egypt and the aggressors. Any such agreement also threatens a sensitive part of the world with more dangers," he said.

Another Middle East country, Qatar, said an Israeli threat to peace in the area was "an effective handicap for the Arab countries to perform their role and obligations among the third world according to their economic and human capabilities."

Qatar's ambassador to the U.N. in Geneva, Mr. Abdul Rahman Hamad Al Attiyah, said efforts to achieve a new international economic order would be inefficient if it were merely an expedient for delaying U.N. resolutions about regions and peoples in regions where peace and security are actually in danger.

Kreps hopeful Sino-American trade pacts to be signed soon

PEKING, May 9 (AP)—U.S. Commerce Secretary Juanita Kreps said today she still hopes to initial a Sino-American trade agreement before she leaves China and to sign the long-awaited claims-assets settlement.

The secretary also announced that formal negotiations on a Sino-American civil aviation agreement would begin as soon as possible. She said the current maritime negotiations began well and a negotiator was prepared to continue after she leaves.

Israel stages lightning incursion into Lebanon

SHAQRA, Lebanon, May 9 (R)—Hundreds of Israeli troops and right-wing Lebanese militias swarmed into this village in southern Lebanon today and briefly occupied it after a Palestinian commando raid in northern Israel. The lightning incursion at

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Ibrahim to go to Moscow for Mideast talks

AMMAN, May 9 (JNA)—Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim will go to Moscow tomorrow for a visit lasting several days.

He will have talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko on recent Middle East developments and Jordanian-Soviet relations.

Mr. Ibrahim is currently in Fez, Morocco, taking part in the Islamic foreign ministers conference.

Israeli report criticises last year's army conduct in southern Lebanon

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 9 (R)—An official Israeli report today strongly criticised the conduct of the army's invasion of southern Lebanon last year, saying there was looting, indiscipline and military incompetence.

The findings were included in an annual report submitted to the Knesset today by the state comptroller, watchdog of government activities.

Only selected parts dealing with the army and the invasion of Lebanon were made public.

The invasion in March 1978 sent Israeli troops to the banks of the Litani River. It was launched in retaliation for a Palestinian commando attack on a highway north of Tel Aviv. A large force of commandos seized a tourist bus and 37 civilians and soldiers were killed.

The report said some of the 21 Israeli soldiers killed during the invasion were the victims of avoidable accidents with weapons and vehicles.

Field intelligence services were found to be faulty and commanders complained at the lack of intelligence material during the operation. Much material was later found to have been left behind at base camps, the report said.

"Our investigation shows that the state of preparedness of some of the units engaged was not satisfactory, despite the fact that this was an initiated operation."

"Army general headquarters and the units involved should learn the full lessons concerning mobilisation, discipline and the maintenance of equipment to ensure the state of preparedness of the units," the report said.

Army headquarters said the comptroller's report was based on documents it had supplied. Faults disclosed had already been investigated and steps taken to correct future abuses and mishaps, a spokesman said.

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Loss of innocence

IT IS OFTEN said that the Vietnam era marked the end of an "age of innocence" for the United States, an age during which the U.S. could morally police and culturally influence the world without bearing the burden of responsibility for the consequences, as the colonial powers had previously had to do.

Today, one suspects, Americans are more than ever having to come to terms with this loss of innocence, as it strikes home in an unmistakable way by hitting them where they hurt: in their pocketbooks and gas tanks.

By and large, the average American has up to now scarcely felt the impact of the inflation which has raged in the industrial world since 1974: appeals from Washington for a national tightening of belts, attempts to hammer through a sensible energy policy, have for the most part failed to evince an apposite sense of urgency.

But now it looks as if the crunch has come. First to feel it is California—in GNP terms the eighth largest economic entity in the world—whose 22 million people are the owners of no less than 15 million motor vehicles. Californians are now queuing frantically at filling stations (and, in more extreme instances, holding them up at gunpoint or siphoning petrol out of their neighbours' cars) as the state imposes partial fuel rationing.

This is the beginning of the "energy crisis" that Americans have been warned about. It comes less than a month after President Carter finally proposed measures aimed, in Newsweek's words, at "moderating the nation's air-cooled, central-heated, gasoline-guzzling life-style by making it too costly." The ill-timed disaster at a nuclear power plant in Pennsylvania has added extra urgency to the energy dilemma—in a positive sense by focusing public attention on the availability of alternative energy sources, and in a negative sense by making nuclear power—even with all possible safeguards—a less acceptable alternative to oil-fuelled methods of power generation. Another jolt has been the revelation that the seven U.S. Big Oil companies are to be sued by the federal government for overcharging consumers to the tune of \$1,700 million since August 1973.

All this comes as a rude awakening. But critics argue that Americans have only themselves to blame; it can be said for example, that by overruling an aggressive Israel, the U.S. created the circumstances leading to the 1973 Arab oil embargo and subsequent OPEC price rises. Similarly, America's unwavering support for the Shah of Iran can be said to have contributed to the Iranian upheaval which interrupted that country's oil exports earlier this year and led to the present shortfall in U.S. crude supplies.

It is a case of Americans being forced to realise the extent to which they are responsible for the "external" factors which they are quick to blame for their problems. The same argument is postulated, for example, in the case of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA): if Americans feel smug about the fact that their government contributes the lion's share of the UNRWA budget, UNRWA officials might reply that it was U.S. policy both pre-1948 and since then which created the refugee crisis in the first place.

This is not to denigrate America's renowned generosity and charity. But policies have foreseeable consequences, and good intentions are not always enough. A Marshall Plan to rebuild a war-shattered Europe is one thing; a Carter Plan to build up Egypt and Israel at the expense of a just and comprehensive Middle East peace settlement is another. As they wait in line at the gas pumps, these are things which Americans should be pondering.

Arabsat to issue tender soon for \$200m. project

By Ron Cathell
 Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, May 9—The Arab Satellite Communication Organisation (Arabsat) is expected to issue a tender "very soon" for the construction of three satellites and two telemetry tracking and command earth stations. The tender will be valued at over \$200 million.

"It hasn't been decided definitely when the tender will be floated, but it will be very soon," the director general of Jordan's Telecommunications Corporation, Mr. Mohammad Shahid Ismail, told the Jordan Times today. Mr. Ismail returned Monday from the Arabsat general assembly meetings in Tunisia where he headed Jordan's delegation. Arabsat is based in Riyadh.

The American consultants Comsat General have nearly completed details of the design for the \$200 million satellite project, the first phase of the telecommunications system. The designs should be finished by the end of June or beginning of July. Arabsat's board of directors will then meet and review the plans, make final adjustments and issue the tender.

The project calls for commissioning of three satellites, the launching of two, and construction of two earth stations to track and control them. One ground station is to be located in Saudi Arabia. The location for the other has not yet been decided. Also included in the project are about 20 transponders to relay telephone, telex and telegraphic communication.

A "primary satellite" will be launched first to inaugurate and test the system until the "major path" satellite is launched and becomes fully operational. The first satellite will then go on standby for emergency backup. A third satellite will remain on the ground on standby in the event of a malfunction of both orbiting

satellites.

The "major path" satellite will be equipped with more than 10,000 half circuits enabling it to handle 5,000 telephone calls simultaneously. It will be put on a fixed orbit 36 kilometres above the equator at a point where it can serve the Arab World.

The telecommunications system will serve all members of the Arab League who are also members of Arabsat, except Egypt. The Arabsat general assembly in Tunisia voted to suspend Egypt's membership in the organisation in accordance with resolutions adopted by Arab foreign ministers at the Baghdad summit.

The system will be used not only for telephone, telex and telegraphic communications, but also to transmit television programmes throughout the Arab World. Included in the \$200 million project is a high-power transponder on the ground that will enable the orbiting satellite to relay television programmes from one Arab city to another.

"People anywhere in the Arab World will be able to pick up television programmes broadcast in the Arab World. All they need is a special, inexpensive and small TV antenna," Mr. Ismail said.

Once the system is operational, which is scheduled for January 1, 1983, the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation (ALESCO) will produce a variety of television programmes for broadcasting through the transponder to all Arab countries.

At the general assembly in Tunisia, Arabsat adopted a resolution to conduct a survey to study how it will implement the second phase of the telecommunications system; that is, the earth stations in each Arab country. The study will attempt to determine how many transmitting and receiving stations will be needed and how their design and construction can be coordinated with the satellites.

Syrian transport minister leaves

AMMAN, May 9 (JNA)—Syrian Minister of Transport Dr. Salim Yassin left for home today at the end of his three-day visit to Jordan. During the visit, he took part in the meetings of the Jordanian-Syrian Land Transport Company and the Jordanian-Syrian shipping

company. The meetings culminated today with the signing by Dr. Yassin and his Jordanian counterpart Ali Suheimat of minutes covering the two companies' annual reports, the 1979 budgets and investment plans for this year.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Art Exhibit

The Dept. of Culture and Arts presents an exhibition of paintings by Zaki Shaqfeh and Yasser Dwaik at the Art Gallery, Ministry of Culture and Youth.

Children's Books Exhibit

The Friends of Children's Club presents an exhibit of children's books at the Palace of Culture. The exhibit is open from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Photo Exhibit

The French Cultural Centre presents an exhibit of photos on Provence, which is open during regular hours.

Detective Film

The Goethe Institute presents a detective television film entitled "AE617 ohne Landeurlaub" (in German) at 8:00 p.m.

PLO team

due in Amman

AMMAN, May 9 (J.T.)—The joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee set up at the Baghdad summit conference last November to help Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza resist Israeli occupation will convene here in the next few days. Al Dustour newspaper reported today.

Mr. Hamed Abu Sitta, the director of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's occupied territories affairs department will be coming to Amman from Damascus at the head of a PLO team to continue discussions with Jordanian officials on how best to use the \$150 million earmarked by the Baghdad summit to help support Palestinians under occupation.

Mr. Abu Sitta was in Amman at the beginning of last month for talks with Mr. Adnan Abu Odeh, the Minister of Information and head of the Jordanian side to the committee in his capacity as chairman of the Executive Bureau for Occupied Territories Affairs.

Old man stabbed to death in Salt

AMMAN, May 9 (JT)—A 70-year-old man from Sweileh was stabbed to death last night in Salt by his brother-in-law's 17-year-old nephew in an apparent family feud. The assault took place following a row that grew into a fight between the old man and his 52-year-old brother-in-law. Apparently, the brother-in-law had taken his wife to her brother's house for still unknown reasons. This led to a fight in which the young man interfered on the side of his uncle and stabbed the old man with his dagger in the neck and other places on his body.

The young man was immediately arrested and the public prosecutor of Salt is said to be conducting an investigation.

Gaza mayor anticipates strong pressure to accept self-rule

AMMAN, May 9 (J.T.)—The Mayor of Gaza, Mr. Rashad Al Shawwa, told Al Ra'i newspaper here today that both Israel and Egypt are planning to use the Gaza Strip as the experimental station for the self-rule plan.

The situation is fraught with peril, he added, because both countries possess the means to exert pressure on inhabitants of the strip to force them to take part in the plan against their will.

The people of Gaza would be willing to accept the so-called autonomy plan if it guaranteed their full legitimate rights, Mr. Al Shawwa added. He listed these as respecting the human rights of the Palestinians under occupation, allowing them to exercise the right

of self-determination and putting a halt to Jewish settlements in the occupied territories.

The U.S. and Israel claim to be democratic countries, they ought to grant the Palestinians their rights and accept the choice of the majority of PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people, Mr. Al Shawwa said.

The Gaza mayor is here for talks on the conditions in his city and neighbouring areas with Jordanian and PLO officials, to warn them of what might happen.

Israelis imposing a constant blockade along the Gaza coast on the pretext of preventing arms smuggling, thus denying local fishermen their livelihood; and is in a position to bring pressure to bear on some 70,000 labourers from Gaza now working in Israel.

Egypt, for its part, has given hints that it may issue a decree to take speedy action to put an end to the grave dangers threatening Arab Jerusalem and the occupied Arab territories.

The three, Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh, Rawhi Al Khatib, and Dr. Daoud Al Husaini, all members of the Save Jerusalem Committee, said in a statement to Al Dustour that conditions in Jerusalem are serious and the Israelis are carrying out measures to Judaize the city.

They expressed the hope that the conference will respond to the challenges of President Sadat and reject any solutions which do not guarantee the return of Jerusalem to Arab sovereignty.

Mr. Al Zu'bi was arrested in 1968 in a battle with Israeli troops, which took place near the occupied town of Furik in the Nabulus district.



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could be affected by this measure. There are, in addition to 10,000 students from Gaza studying in Egypt, many Gaza merchants living in Egypt and are vulnerable to pressure, Mr. Al Shawwa said.

The Mayor also complained that Arab aid to Gaza, so far totalling \$12 million, is not sufficient to alleviate the burden on his municipality.

Palestinians appeal to Islamic conference

AMMAN, May 9 (J.T.)—Three leading Palestinian figures today appealed to the Islamic Foreign Ministers Conference in Fez to take speedy action to put an end to the grave dangers threatening Arab Jerusalem and the occupied Arab territories.

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ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I WEDNESDAY criticises the statement by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance before the U.S. House of Representatives Foreign Relations Committee Tuesday in which he says: "Israeli withdrawal from Arab territory still constitutes a basis for any future Middle East settlement."

In the paper's opinion, the statement is ambiguous either because Mr. Vance is afraid of the Zionist lobby or because the Carter administration is committed to support Israel's expansionist policy.

The statement is ambiguous, the paper adds, because Mr. Vance stipulates Arab recognition of Israel as a precondition for the achievement of peace. Mr. Vance is presenting the Arabs with a "semi-peace" and a "distorted" peace because he completely ignores the legitimate rights of the Palestinians and envisages peace at the expense of Arab rights and lands, the paper writes.

It warns that Mr. Vance will be committing a grave error if he tries to impose a *fait accompli* on the region and ignores the core of the problem and Palestinian rights.

What is required, the paper concludes, is a comprehensive peace based on U.N. Security Council resolution 242 and not peace through the "carrot and the stick policy" being pursued by Mr. Vance according to which he promises to return to the Arabs part of their occupied territories in exchange for concessions on basic principles which would force the Arabs to succumb to the conspiracy to liquidate the Palestine problem, or face a *fait accompli*.

AL DUSTOUR says that while Mr. Vance stresses that any future settlement in the Middle East should be based on Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories, Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin reiterates that under no circumstances will Israel withdraw from the occupied territories.

This discrepancy between the U.S. and Israeli views, the paper says, simply means that the Camp David agreements have failed to lay the basis of a comprehensive peace in the area. This basis, the paper says, still constitutes a matter of controversy between the U.S. and Israel.

The paper further states that the main reason why Jordan refused to be involved in the Camp David agreements is that such agreements are so ambiguous that they do not lead to a genuine solution to the Middle East problem.

The paper adds that the vagueness of the Camp David agreements is clearly reflected in the contradictory statements made by Mr. Vance and Mr. Begin on the attitude of both the U.S. and Israel vis-a-vis the situation in the area.

The paper also says that in view of the disagreement between the U.S. and Israel, the United States is invited to stop regarding the Camp David agreement as the ideal framework to solve the Middle East problem as this agreement has so far failed to achieve the minimum requirements of peace.

In conclusion, the paper hopes that the Israeli attitude might motivate the U.S. to hold a constructive dialogue with the Arabs with the object of transferring the whole issue to the United Nations in order to implement the U.N. resolutions and lay the foundations of a just and comprehensive peace in the area.

FURNISHED VILLA FOR RENT

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Location: Shmeisani, two hundred metres past the Flying Carpet Club, on the main road.

For further details please call 66874.

سكس في الحظ

Agronomist proposes scheme to make Syria's arid land fertile

at McDonnell
the Jordan Times

JS, May 9 — An
tudy for her mas-
in agriculture at Goe-
rsity, West Germany,
solution for making
arid lands fertile.
dry were to material-
late lands along the
ould be planted with
ses for at least four
paration for planting
s.
as impractical nor
may sound," says
an Engel Greu. She
ar fourth eight-week
to gather firsthand
master's thesis on
of the soils in Syria.
ity grasses or clovers
ve to be planted, the
uantities of water for
ld only be necessary
sage would then
h year. Also, only

small areas need be planted in the
experimental stages.
The South Australians have
suggested a similar project in
which clover (or medicago) is
rotated annually with wheat crops.
Ms. Greu's theory differs in that
meadow grass or clover not be used for
fodder, but left to fertilise the land
for three to four years.
"In the area of Deir Ez-Zor
salinisation is severe, one-third of
78,000 hectares is out of pro-
duction. From 1950 onward, cot-
ton production increased to 50 per
cent of all crops cultivated in the
Middle Euphrates region. This
monoculture resulted in a deteriora-
tion of the soil," she said.
"We know there has been
agriculture along the Euphrates
from 6000 B.C. — one of the ear-
liest farming settlements is the
neolithic site of Buqras south of
Deir Ez-Zor. "If the land was
conducive to farming even in pre-
history, why is it infertile now?"

Ms. Greu asks.
Ms. Greu reasons that much of
the deterioration occurred in the
20th century.
"One of the worst things one
can do to soil is to leave it fallow,
yet for more than two decades,
this happened when the French
prohibited Syrians to farm the
choice lands along the Euphrates.
French-controlled or owned lands
were permitted to be cultivated,
others were not," she said. She
substantiated this claim by citing
the book, "Cotton and Mono-
culture: Its Role in Syrian
Economy," by Bou Ali Yassin,
1974. Beirut.
"In most areas, except Mes-
kunch which is wetter, the organic
content in the soil is very low—less
than one per cent. There are con-
flicting points of view regarding
agriculture in semi-arid climates.
"Some people take the negative
attitude that it's useless to worry
about reclamation. The German,
E. Wirth, says that out of 18 mil-

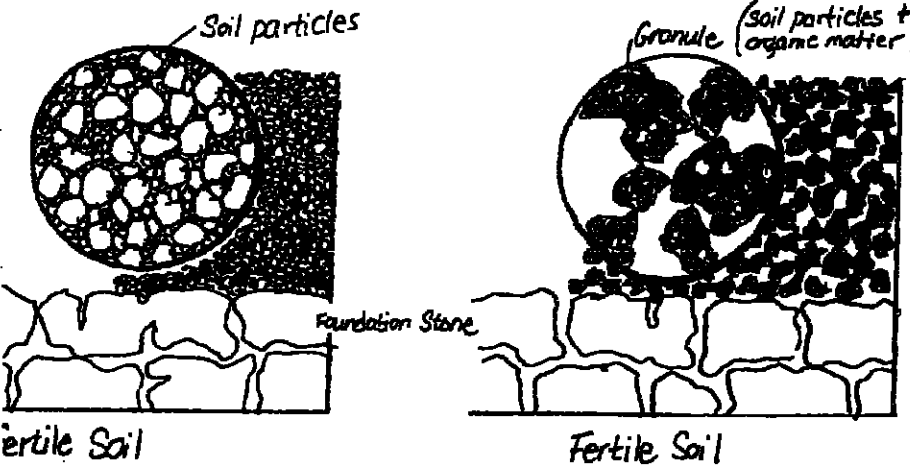
lion hectares in Syria, only seven
million hectares—or 38 per cent of
the land—is cultivatable.
"I maintain that areas on the
Euphrates lay fallow because of
politics, not climate. The French
forbade Syrian farmers to cul-
tivate much of the land through-
out the Mandate because if the
farmers were self-sufficient, they
wouldn't need to work on French
plantations."
Another traditional attitude
about semi-arid land is that the
only solution is drainage. "Drain-
age in itself is a good thing," she
said, "but in soil of poor structure,
drainage doesn't work well."
"The defeatist attitude that the
soil is either not worth reclama-
tion or that if drainage doesn't
work, it's hopeless, is not being
accepted. I'm happy to see, by
Syrians at GADEB (General
Authority for Development of the
Euphrates Basin). The Syrians are
aware of the disadvantages of
monoculture and the necessity to
supply soil with organic matter to
increase fertility."
At this point, Ms. Greu drew a
diagram and explained the dif-
ferences between infertile and fer-
tile soil. "Infertile soil," she said,
"is composed of particles of clay,
silt and sand lacking organic mat-
ter. It is easily pulverised to dust,
quickly erodes and forms a crust.
When irrigated, it loses 70 per
cent of the water as runoff because
it lacks the pores to absorb it. In
other words, only 30 per cent of
the water is absorbed and it slowly
seeps down to the foundation
stone to accumulate as salt."
"Fertile soil is black, spongy
and full of organic material.
Under the microscope, you can
discern stable granules that don't
dissolve in water. Because of the
large pore space between the
granules, 100 per cent of the water
penetrates the soil. The water
does not sink to the foundation
level to build up salts because the
granules suck up the water and
store it for a dry day.
"In semi-arid climates where
the harvest often depends on rain,
when there are 20 days of drought
the roots grow around the
granules in fertile soil and absorb
minerals, air and water.
"One of the problems with
infertile soils is the salt on the



Agronomist Ms. Natasha Greu who recommends planting meadow grasses to desalinate Syria's arid soils.

foundation stone, the salts slowly
rise to the earth's surface. In
ancient times farmers tried to halt
this process by leaching. That is,
they poured water into the soil to
push the salts below the root level
of plants. This is costly. When you
irrigate, you want the water to go
to the plants, not for 70 per cent of
it to be wasted in keeping the salts
below root level.
How then, does she propose to
give a fertile structure to infertile
soils in Syria?
"The idea isn't mine," she
replied. "I found it in the 1938
reports of a Soviet soil expert, Vil-
jams, who had great success in
building organic stores into infertile
lands of the Soviet deserts.
Evidently, he fell into disfavour
because his reports were last
reprinted in 1958.
"Basically, Viljams said if you
plant perennial pasture grasses for
three or four years—and if you do
not use the grasses as fodder but
let them return to the soil—you
can create fertile structures in
infertile soil.
"Annual plants, such as wheat,
don't allow the soil to build up
organic granules because they die
in summer and only the roots and
straw remain to decay to minerals.
"Perennial grasses are dif-
ferent: the root mass dies in late
autumn and breaks down into
simple organic compounds. The
roots keep buds in the soil so that

in the following spring new grass
and organic refuse eventually cre-
ate an amorphous organic mat-
ter that enriches the soil."
Ms. Greu said that clover and
grasses absorb nitrogen from the
air and release it into the soil from
their roots. She notes that legumes
also trap nitrogen. "The roots of
legumes break the deeper layers
of the soil, when the roots decay,
they release calcium that, when
mixed with the grass residue, forms
a cement — a very basic way to
construct fertile soil."
Ms. Greu says that Viljams was
working in very dry areas receiv-
ing less than 300 mm. of pre-
cipitation a year. "After six or
seven years of implanting the dry
soil with meadow grasses, it
accepted water penetration and
yielded seven tons of wheat per
hectare. The average yield in West
Germany is four tons per hectare.
"The soils Viljams experi-
mented with later were able to
resist changes in climate because
they had a storage capacity. After
growing wheat for six years on
rotation basis with fertilisers, he
went back to one year of planting
pasture grasses.
Smiling broadly, Ms. Greu
qualified her statements: "I'm not
trying to transform the Euphrates
region into a meadow, I realise
farmers must get a return from
their lands and that people must
be fed, but why not try to plant
clover in certain areas?"
"Why not experiment? The
original outlay of water might be
large, but after the first year, the
material in the soil would hold and
store the water at an increasing
rate.
"Similar results can be achieved
with manure, but it would entail
huge quantities. Syrian farmers
are also practicing 'green' fer-
tilising in that they plough 'ful'
(legumes) under the soil in the
spring. They might increase nitro-
gen, but the organic content of
the soil isn't increased because the
'ful' is mineralised in the summer.
If they ploughed the 'ful' under in
the autumn, they would get better
results."
If Ms. Greu has her way, she
will present her published mas-
ter's thesis to the Syrian gov-
ernment next year and hopefully
participate in its implementation.



Infertile Soil: Small pore space between particles, water runs off. Fertile Soil: Large pore space between granules, water is absorbed.

am by agronomist Ms. Natasha Greu showing the increase in water absorption that takes place when soil has organic material added to it.

National News

Cabinet approves ratification of Islamic cooperation agreement

AMMAN, May 9 (JNA) — The cabinet today gave its approval for the exchange of instruments of ratification for an agreement reached at the 1977 Islamic Conference in Saudi Arabia on trade, cultural and technical cooperation among Islamic nations. The cabinet authorised Jordan's ambassador in Jeddah to carry out the exchange of instruments.

Governor of Arab Jerusalem meets premier

AMMAN, May 9 (J.T.) — The governor of Arab Jerusalem Mr. Anwar Khatib called on Prime Minister Mudar Badran yesterday to discuss a number of issues concerning citizens of Arab Jerusalem and other areas of the occupied West Bank. According to the daily Al Dustour, Mr. Khatib was scheduled to return to Jerusalem today.

Cabinet forms financial delegation

AMMAN, May 9 (JNA) — The cabinet today formed a financial delegation headed by Finance Minister Mohammad Dabbas to go to Kuwait for talks on increasing Jordanian-Kuwaiti economic cooperation, joint ventures and the employment of Kuwaiti public and private investments in Jordanian projects. Mr. Dabbas is to be accompanied by a high-level nine-member delegation representing leading economic institutions in Jordan.

W. German Development Bank team tours Aqaba projects

AQABA, May 9 (JNA) — A visiting team from the West German Development Bank today toured a number of Jordanian projects financed by the bank in the Aqaba region. The projects include those undertaken by the Aqaba Railway and Aqaba Harbour corporations and the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company. The team, which arrived in Jordan on May 2, has also met with Minister of Transport Ali Suhaimat to discuss progress of work on these projects.

Tourism minister receives Austrian journalists

AMMAN, May 9 (JNA) — Minister of Tourism Ghaleb Barakat briefed a visiting team of Austrian journalists today on Jordanian development projects in general and tourism plans in particular. The team is currently visiting Jordanian archaeological and tourist sites at the invitation of the Ministry of Tourism with the purpose of encouraging Austrian newspapers and magazines to write about tourist attractions in Jordan.



Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Ghaleb Barakat receives a delegation of Austrian journalists on Wednesday.

IMAN STOCK EXCHANGE REPORT

COMPANY	Par Value	Volume Traded	Last Buying Offer	Last Selling Offer	Closing Price
oleum Co.	JD 5,000	629	6,690	6,700	6,690
ment Factories	JD 10,000	224	2,200	2,240	2,240
osphate Mines	JD 1,000	604	14,400	14,400	14,400
naceutical Co.	JD 5,000	2,300	—	—	2,300
nk	JD 1,000	291	1,160	1,200	1,160
f Bank	JD 1,000	1,836	1,010	1,020	1,020
a Development and Co.	JD 1,000	1,686	2,630	2,680	2,630
tricity Co.	JD 1,000	1,743	1,400	1,440	1,430
mic Industries	JD 1,000	87	0,860	0,880	0,870
s Factories	JD 1,000	670	0,660	0,670	0,670
inium Co.	JD 1,000	415	0,891	0,900	0,890
e and Silicate Brick Co.	JD 5,000	108	4,340	4,390	4,340
ment Bank	JD 1,000	1,070	1,060	1,070	1,070
ernational Hotels Co.	JD 1,000	638	0,680	0,710	0,690

se traded, Wednesday, May 9: JD 12,301
er of shares traded: 7,768

Par Value	Volume Traded	Number Traded	Year of Maturity	Selling Price
JD 5,000	1,005	200	1983	5,025
JD 5,000	1,014	200	1986	5,070

se traded: JD 2,019
er of bonds traded: 400

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

U.S. dollar	304.00/306.00
U.K. sterling	629.00/633.00
West German mark	160.30/161.30
Swiss franc	177.50/178.60
French franc	69.50/69.90
Italian lire (for every 100)	35.90/36.10
Japanese yen (for every 100)	142.10/143.00
Dutch guilder	147.50/148.40

TODAY'S WEATHER

Amman	15	30
Aqaba	21	37
Deserts	15	33
Jordan Valley	17	35

Overnight Daytime
low high

Temperatures will be slightly higher than normal and winds will be northwesterly light to moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas will be calm.

VACANCY NO. 48/79

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Refugees requires:
Information Assistant/Translator for rent at its Field Office in Amman. Candidates e:
sity degree with a very good knowledge of nd spoken Arabic-English.
ears experience in Administrative or public on work of which at least two years must have major duties in translating Arabic into English versa.
llowing qualifications will be taken into con- n in the interest of candidates:
ence in journalism
st in and knowledge of photography
ng knowledge of French and/or German lan-
ssion of valid driver's licence acceptable by orties in Jordan.
Field Personnel Officer Jordan,
Field Office (Amman)
ussein Ibn Amid Street, not later than 9.

TENDER NOTICE FROM JORDAN VALLEY AUTHORITY

Invitation No. 7/79
Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) invites d suppliers to bid on 75,000 metres of cor- PVC perforated drainage tubing. The speci- r this tubing can be obtained from JVA Office n. The bids should be for CIF Deir Alla and clude the price for fittings to connect the pipe Bids postmarked not later than June 11, 1979 will be opened as received.
Omar Abdallah Dokhgan,
President,
JVA.

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TIME

The World Newsmagazine
Read in this week's issue
BRITAIN'S FIGHTING LADY (Margaret Thatcher becomes nation's first woman prime minister).
THATCHER INTERVIEW (she warns about Soviet Union's intentions).
CARTER-KENNEDY FEUD (U.S. political battle heats up over oil companies).
WORRIES OVER BREZHNEV (Soviet Leader's health could cloud negotiations).
JAPAN TRADE (Ohira promises Carter to try to narrow U.S. trade gap).
IRAN FOREIGN MINISTER (says U.S. must change its relations with Tehran).
AFGHAN REBELLION (another possible revolution with Islamic overtones).
U.S. MOTORISTS (feeling the pinch at the gas pump).
POPE PICKS VETERAN (Archbishop Agostino Casaroli new secretary of state).
STRONGER DOLLAR HITS EUROPE (causes increased inflation on Continent).

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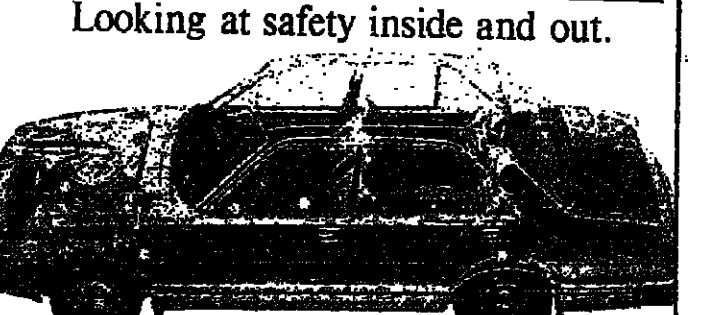
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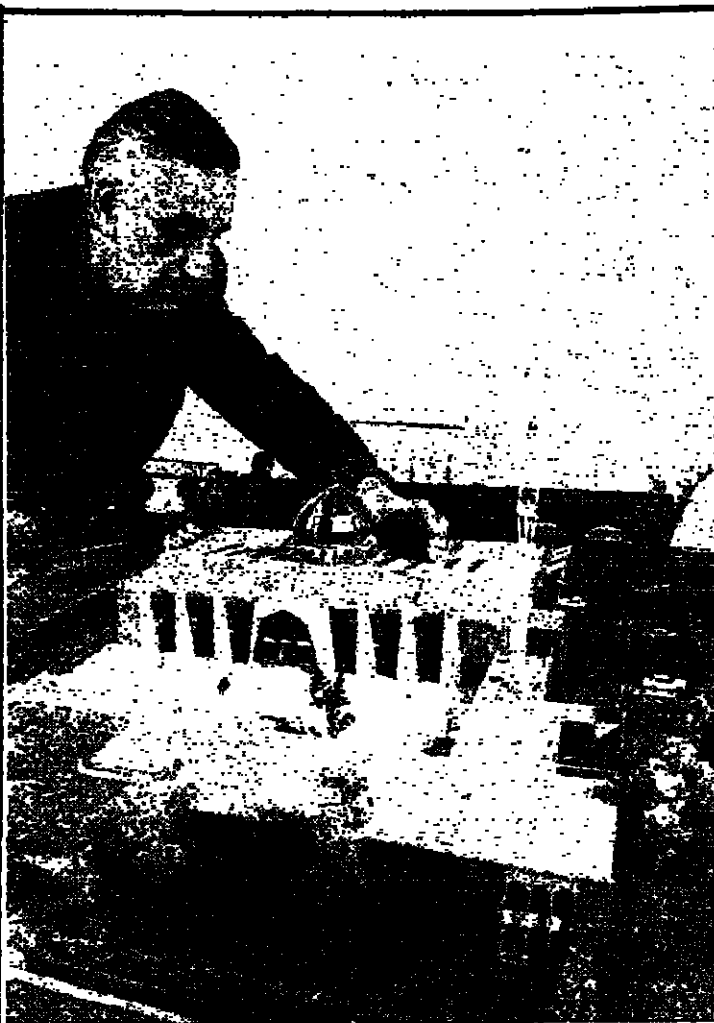
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New mosque for Glasgow

GLASGOW—A new mosque with traditional dome and minaret is to be built for the Muslim community in Glasgow, Scotland, and will be part of the new city plan. Designed by architect W.M. Copeland (pictured with model), the mosque will stand on a splendid riverside site adjacent to civic buildings, the law courts, the nautical college and leisure centre. The L-shaped building will provide a main prayer hall for 1400 worshippers, a women's hall, a large community hall, meeting rooms, facilities for light refreshments and a classroom and library for religious studies. The mosque will provide a real centre of community life as well as worship for Muslims not only in Glasgow but throughout Scotland. (COI photo)

JORDAN TIMES SPORTS ROUNDUP

Intercontinental Basketball Cup

MULHOUSE, France, May 9 (R) — France, conquerors of the United States last Saturday, won their second match of the Intercontinental Basketball Cup here last night, beating Argentina 103-87. Cheered on by a crowd of 3,200, France took a 7-2 lead in the first two minutes thanks to excellent play by Apollo Faye. Despite valiant opposition from the South Americans — who were not fielding their first team, at home preparing for the Panamerican games — the French defence held firm thanks to tight man-to-man marking. France led by 10 points at half-time, but minutes after the break the Argentines closed the gap to 48-46. But thanks to spectacular play by Faye, Jacques Cachemire and above all Dubuisson, France surged ahead again to win a clear victory.

Red Star to meet Borussia in UEFA Cup

BELGRADE, May 9 (R) — Red Star Belgrade expect to beat Borussia Moenchengladbach in their UEFA (European Football Union) Cup final first leg match here today, despite the memory of a humiliating experience against the West German club in the European Cup two years ago. "Everything is excellent. All my players are in top form and the atmosphere is optimistic — we all expect to win," Red Star coach Branko Stankovic said. In 1977, Red Star were swamped by Borussia, 3-0 at home and 5-1 away. Stankovic expects Borussia to play defensively today while attempting swift and dangerous counter-attacks through their fast wingers Simonsen and Lienen. "I think it will be more difficult for us here than in the return match. Against defensive tactics you have to be careful not to throw everything into attack, and alert at the same time for possible counter-attacks," he said. The Belgrade team's optimism is boosted by their triumphs over England's Arsenal and West Bromwich Albion and West Germany's

Hertha Berlin in the three previous rounds of the competition. "The most important thing is that we prevent Borussia from scoring in Belgrade. If we manage that I would be satisfied with a minimum victory," Stankovic said. He added that he had warned his players that Borussia had not lost a single match away or at home in this year's UEFA Cup. "That does not mean we will change our tactics for Borussia. Red Star will play the same game as in all previous matches. There will be no special tasks to stop Simonsen or anybody else," Stankovic said. The match, the first UEFA Cup final in Yugoslavia, has attracted enormous interest.

Red Star officials expect more than 100,000 supporters at the stadium, the biggest in Yugoslavia. Borussia, faced with relegation worries at home, will be without two of their first team regulars, the injured Calle Def haye and Hans Klinkhammer. But they have ace defender Berti Vogts back — he returned to the team last month after being sidelined since last August by a broken leg — and the diminutive Dane Simonsen could prove a trump card in attack. The Cup would be a fine farewell present for Simonsen, Europe's 1977 Footballer of the Year, who joins Spanish club Barcelona next season, and for manager Udo Lattek, who also departs next season. He takes over at nearby Dortmund.

Hertha Berlin's trainer Kuno Klotzer, whose squad went out to Red Star in the semi-finals, has predicted that the Belgrade club will win the Cup. "Borussia has no chance against these Yugoslavs," he said. But Lattek retorted: "Klotzer should know to what heights Borussia can raise themselves." He added: "We must score a goal in Belgrade. It would be terribly important for the return game."

European Amateur Boxing Championships

COLOGNE, West Germany, May 9 (R) — The four Soviet boxers competing on the fourth day of the European Amateur Boxing

Championships in Cologne last night all qualified for the semi-finals. On the first day of the quarter-final contests, the Soviet winners were flyweight Alexander Dargatzis, featherweight Vito Rybakov, light-heavyweight Albert Nikov and light-middleweight Shamil Sabykov. Four Bulgarian boxers were defeated, including European junior champion Peter Stamenov, who lost a 5-0 decision to West German super-heavyweight Peter Hanning. Other West German winners were Rene Weller who beat Yugoslav Konecny of Czechoslovakia 5-0 in the light-weight division, and Greek-born Georg Vlachos who beat Belgium's Mark Renaud 5-0 in the bantam-weight. East Germany got three boxers through to the semi-finals.

Women's World Basketball Championships

SEOUL, May 9 (AP) — Front-running Canada takes on Japan and Italy meets France today as the seven-nation final round of the eighth World Basketball Championships for Women begins the halfway point. The seven finalists, also including the United States, Australia, and South Korea, rested yesterday. The unbeaten Canadian girls, with three victories so far, are certain to dispose easily of the shorter Japanese, who have a victory against two losses. Italy and France are both winless, each with three losses, but the Italians are slightly favored. The United States, silver medalist in the 1976 Montreal Olympics, and Australia, each with two victories and one loss, are in third place in the standings after Korea's 3-1 record. The sole Korean entry was to Canada. The defending champion Soviet Union and the other communist countries, which have no diplomatic relations with South Korea, boycotted the Seoul meet.

New Alfa Romeo entry to race in Belgium

MILAN, Italy, May 9 (AP) — The brand-new Alfa Romeo Formula-One racer will be in Sunday's Grand Prix of Belgium, the sixth event of the World Championship, officials of Alfa Romeo announced yesterday. The all-Alfa model, engine and body assembled by the Italian auto maker, will be driven by Italian Bruno Giacomelli. Alfa Romeo, which also supplies engines to the Brabham team, had been long in doubt whether to enter a new racer in Belgium. Company officials said a final decision was made on the basis of competitive times clocked by Giacomelli in a series of test runs at Zolder, Holland, last week.

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THAT'S O.K.-NOW CHECK IT FOR STRAIGHTNESS

LOWER AWAY, HENRY!

COULDN'T BE STRAIGHTER, BOSS!

DAVE COVERLY

CULTURAL CENTRES (Amman)

American Centre	Tel. 41520
British Council	36147-8
French Cultural Centre	37009
Geographic Institute	41993
Soviet Cultural Centre	44283
Spanish Cultural Centre	24049
Hayn Arts Centre	65195
Hayn Youth City	67181
Y.W.C.A.	41793
Y.W.M.C.A.	64251
Amman Municipal Library	36111
University of Jordan Library	65111
Clotel Museum	26193
Foldore Museum	36191

AIRPORT

DEPARTURES:

5:40 Damascus, Munich,
6:00 Damascus
8:00 Beirut

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (AMMAN)	
Ambulance (government)	Tel. 75111
Civil defense team	24391-4
Electricity Power Co. (emergency)	36381-2
Municipal water service (emergency)	37111-3
Police headquarters	39141
Na'jrah rowing patrol rescue police (English)	
24 hours a day for emergency	" 21111, 37771
Airport information (ALIA)	35205
Jordan Television	72111
Radijo English Section	74124
Franchise, Jm. police	19
Fire headquarters	22090

8:45 Beirut (MEA)
8:55 Cairo (EA)
9:30 Rome
10:30 Cairo
11:00 New York
11:50 London (BA)
12:00 London, Vienna
12:30 Athens, Madrid
13:00 Kuwait (KAC)
13:00 Paris
13:45 Riyadh, Dhahran (S)
15:00 Aqaba
20:00 Abu Dhabi, Dubai
21:00 Jeddah (JAF)

CULTURAL CENTRES (Damascus)	
Al Hana Theatre	Tel. 220-448
Al Sharb Art Gallery	228-527
Time (in Arabic)	99
American Centre	555-3632
Arab Cultural Centre	555-777
Belgian Cultural Centre	557-591
British Cultural Centre	538-594
French Democratic Republic Cultural Centre	533-552
French Cultural Centre	538-694
Kabani Theatre	522-016

AGENCIES

Al Is'af (30210)
Irbid:
'Amsyreh
Zarqa:
Al Shaker
Tadris
Vemala (44584)
Falaestine (36194)
Najlah (23039)
Khadidom (62231)

National Museum	114-834
Seriet Cultural Center	223-690
Special Cultural Center	334-083
Umayyad Art Gallery	334-619
Zahara's Public Library	111-318
West German Cultural Institute	224-945

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS
(Damascus)

Ambulance (government)	Tel. 90
Chamber of Commerce	118-339
Electric Power Co. (repair)	223-887
Fire headquarters	91
Information	115, 200
Municipal water service	115, 200

L-GOREN
HARVEY
30 Tribune

vulnerable.

K963 ♠AJ7
proceeded:
with West
♣ Pass

now?

vulnerable, as

962 ♠AQ104
proceeded:
with East
NT Pass
♥ Pass

you take?

vulnerable, as

9 ♠KJ10762
proceeded:
ast South
pass ?
you take?

vulnerable, as

3 ♦ 07 ♠532
proceeded:
with West
♥ Pass

2 NT - Pass : ?
What action do you take?

Q.5-North-South vulnerable,
as South you hold:
♦ 6 ♥ AJ95 ♠ 862 ♣ AK1063
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♣ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 ♣ Pass
3 ♥ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
Q.6-Both vulnerable, as
South you hold:
♦ 752 ♥ KQJ8 ♠ KQ74 ♣ 83
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
3 ♣ Dbie. Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.7-As South, vulnerable
you hold:
♠ A7 ♥ 109865 ♠ Q7 ♣ AKJ
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♥ Pass 1 ♣ Pass
?
What do you bid now?

Q.8-Neither vulnerable, as
South you hold:
♦ KJ52 ♥ AJ8 ♠ 763 ♣ 952
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass
3 ♦ Pass 3 NT Pass
4 ♣ Pass ?
What action do you take?

ESE
RANT

Up restaurant in
Jalan, near the Ahi-
Tel. 38959.
to 3-30 p.m. and
service offered by

QUICK MEAL

Jabal Amman First Circle Tel 21083
Jabal Hussein behind Jerusalem Cinema
Tel. 21781 Jalan Lamekshah Haroon
Circle Tel 30646 Zurqa Cinema Near
Street Tel K2H11, Irbil Baghdad Street
Tel 3405. Nassar opposite the man-
saphary Tel 50 Maadhi King Abdullah
Street Tel 160. Maafraq Tel 419.
KEERAK Jermah -opposite Ajloun en-
croased. Sweeth.

**IS THERE SOMETHING ON
 YOUR MIND?**
 WE AT JORDAN TIMES HEAR ABOUT
 IT.
 WRITE TO: P.O. BOX 6710

According to Reuter survey World oil shortage has had 'very limited effect' on W.Europe

LONDON, May 9 (R)—About half the governments in Western Europe are trying in various, mainly voluntary, ways to get their people to cut down on energy consumption. But the world oil shortage now causing long queues at California petrol stations has had very limited and uneven effect in Western Europe, a Reuter survey has shown.

West Germany, Britain and Switzerland expect no problems over oil supplies this year. "It can't happen here," a government official said in Bonn.

Mr. Martin Gruener, secretary of state in the West German Economics Ministry, told a radio interviewer that the fall in America's crude oil stocks was

Nepal releases ex-premier from detention

KATMANDU, May 9 (R) — Former premier B.P. Koirala and other leaders of his banned Nepalese Congress Party were released from detention late last night after being detained on accusations of organising violent incidents.

Most shops in central Katmandu were closed following a resurgence of student unrest. Small groups of shouting students marched around the capital again this morning.

Mr. Koirala said: "A small student movement was blown into a major national crisis because of the ineptitude of the government which is not responsive to the aspirations and will of the people."

He said he still hoped for national reconciliation with various political groupings uniting behind King Birendra for a democratic and strong Nepal.

caused by the low price of petrol there, which made the U.S. an unattractive market for oil suppliers.

West Germany, he said, pays the full market price for oil and will run short only if there is a big drop in world production. The Bonn government has printed a stock of petrol ration cards just in case.

Britain and Norway, with oil wells in the North Sea, are the most comfortably placed of European countries, and officials in Bern believe Switzerland will be able to buy all the oil it needs this year.

Yugoslavia, however, has introduced a version of California's petrol rationing system. New speed limits have been imposed, and trucks and buses are not allowed on trips longer than 200 kilometres. Belgrade's economy measures, however, are not directly linked to the disruption of oil production in Iran that resulted from the revolution which overthrew the Shah.

Yugoslavia imports about ten million tonnes of crude oil a year, mainly from Libya, Iraq and the Soviet Union.

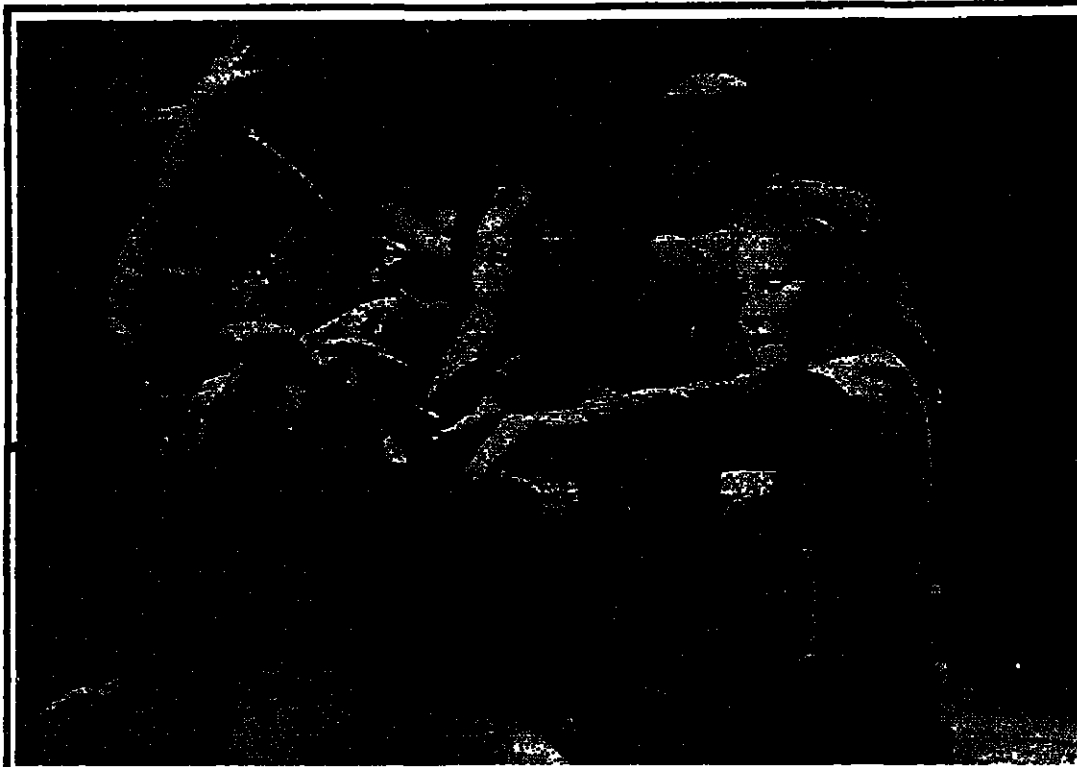
In Belgium, which got 42 per cent of its oil from Iran last year, oil stocks are now at least five per cent below normal. Fuel oil is rationed, lighting reduced in buildings and on advertisements, and existing speed limits on the roads are more strictly enforced.

Italy, which bought 14 million tonnes of oil from Iran last year, is now getting almost none there, and may run seriously short this year, according to Mr. Giuseppe Ammassari, director for energy at the Industry Ministry in Rome.

The ministry has drawn up a package of measures, including lower speed limits and shorter opening hours in shops. But no government action is likely before next month's general election.

Another country facing possible trouble is Sweden, which got ten per cent less oil last winter than it expected and by February was dipping into its late spring reserves.

The government is calling for a voluntary cut in energy use of seven per cent, and there have been warnings that homes and offices may have to be chillier next winter to save fuel.



LONDON—A group of Scottish schoolchildren will appear at the National Festival of Mime in London this month, finding a means of self-expression in the silent world of mime. But for these nine-year-old pupils from Aberdeen, the world is continually a silent place to live, for they are deaf. The young performers won their way to the festival with a production entitled "Treasure from the Sea". They composed it themselves and came top in the qualifying round at the Scottish Mime Workshop at Stirling University where they are pictured rehearsing with the help of Mrs. Fay Dunmer, director of the newly-formed mime theatre in Edinburgh. At the Aberdeen School for the Deaf, where they are educated, mime is an important part of language study, complementing sign language and the use of their residual hearing with powerful aids. Competing against deaf children from all over Britain, a group from the same school gained first place at the National Festival for Mime in 1975 with a play called "North Sea Oil". (COI photo)

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On last day prior to introduction of state-wide rationing

California motorists stampede for petrol

LOS ANGELES, May 9 (R) — Car-crazy Californians jumped queues and resorted to violence yesterday prior to the midnight deadline for the introduction of petrol rationing.

The state with 16 million vehicles for 22 million people has been worst hit by an oil shortage which has led President Carter to seek emergency petrol rationing

Mrs. Gandhi could be tried soon under new legislation

NEW DELHI, May 9 (R)—India's lower house of parliament yesterday approved a bill setting up special courts to try ex-premier Indira Gandhi and others for alleged offences during her 21-month emergency rule.

In passing the bill, the Lok Sabha agreed to amendments proposed by the upper house (Rajya Sabha), including one that judges be nominated by the chief justice.

The bill now goes to President Neelam Sanjiva Reddy for his signature, and Home Ministry officials said the courts should be in operation within a few weeks.

Meanwhile, Minister of State for Finance Satish Agarwal told the upper house that the Central Bureau of Investigation had been ordered to probe allegations that an Italian company arranged for a \$100,000 gift to Mrs. Gandhi while she was in power.

But the deal, supposed to have been completed before the 1977 general election in which Mrs. Gandhi's government was defeated, did not materialise and the payment was never made, he said.

He said the government was in possession of a letter from the unnamed company saying the money would be deposited in a bank in Hong Kong for Mrs. Gandhi. In return the company would be allowed to export 3,000 tonnes of man-made fibre to India, Mr.

powers from Congress.

Without waiting for Mr. Carter's plan, California Governor Jerry Brown approved a state rationing scheme.

But many motorists showed themselves prepared to use force to get their tanks filled before it took effect at midnight. Police and other officials reported ugly scenes in queues of ill-tempered

motorists.

A driver in Hollywood held off an angry crowd at gunpoint as he pumped fuel into his tank after pulling in front of 50 cars.

Many filling station attendants armed themselves with clubs or guns. Several knifings were reported and three were constant scuffles and crashes as some motorists who tried to sneak ahead were rammed by other drivers.

Throughout California, petrol cans and lockable fuel tanks caps were in short supply. In San Diego, hospitals reported treating about 40 people for the effects of swallowing fuel while trying to siphon it from tanks.

In Santa Ana, a family of seven were badly burned when fuel stored in their garage exploded.

After a week of petrol shortages, Californians were either "coping with the crisis or going crazy," one police officer said.

Under Governor Brown's scheme, cars with number plates ending in odd numbers can only be served on odd-numbered days and cars with even number on even days.

Mr. Carter's plan, which has been modified three times to meet objections from the Senate Energy Committee, favours rural states where drivers travel long distances.

The committee finally approved the stand-by plan on a 9-7 vote yesterday and Committee Chairman Henry Jackson predicted the full Senate would also now approve it.

Under the terms submitted to Congress, the bill will die unless both the Senate and House of Representatives pass it by Friday.

In a last effort to win support for the rationing plan, the White House said crude oil reserves now totalled 319 million barrels, dangerously close to the 310 million barrel level considered the nation's minimum safe supply.

U.S. scientists claim breakthrough with new multiple-mirror telescope

TUCSON, Arizona, May 9 (R) — A new six-mirrored telescope, third largest in the world and one which scientists say is a breakthrough rivaling the inventions of Galileo, was dedicated today.

The \$9 million telescope stands on top of the 2,600-metre summit of Mount Hopkins in the Santa Rita Mountains, 55 kilometres south of Tucson.

In studying distant galaxies, its radically new concept uses six 182.88-centimetre telescope mirrors that create a light-gathering capability comparable to a single mirror 447.04 centimetres in diameter.

The project is expected to open the way for a new generation of multiple-mirror telescopes larger

than any now in use.

Conventional telescopes have used only one large mirror, but as their size and power increased, the mirrors became too large to make, polish and aim.

Today's formal dedication ceremony of the multiple-mirror telescope, or MMT, caps a ten-year effort by U.S. scientists.

The idea of a multi-mirror telescope emerged at the University of Arizona's Lunar and Planetary Laboratory in Tucson, and at the Smithsonian Institution's Astrophysical Observatory, which operates the Mount Hopkins telescope.

The only larger optical telescopes are the 200-inch Hale reflector on Mount Palomar in

Los Angeles and a 236-inch telescope in the Crimea in the south-west of the Soviet Union.

Construction of a traditional optical telescope as powerful as the MMT would have cost \$30 million and required a mirror 176 inches in diameter.

Dr. Frank Low, one of the originators of the MMT, said it was a first step towards building telescopes large enough to actually see other planetary systems.

"It can resolve the size, shape and structure of objects previously regarded only as points of light. It opens up a new level of inquiry," according to Dr. Low, a member of the university's Lunar and Planetary Laboratory and of its Steward Observatory.

World News Briefs

U.S. Senate committee approves aid for Turkey

WASHINGTON, May 9 (R) — The Senate Foreign Relations Committee yesterday approved a \$4.3 billion foreign security assistance bill after voting \$100 million emergency aid for Turkey. Turkey needs the money as part of a European effort to help it cope with internal economic problems. Last week, the committee approved a separate \$450 million aid package for Turkey that included \$252 million in military credits and training and \$198 million in economic aid. Before approving the aid bill, the committee also increased military credits for Indonesia from \$35 million to \$45 million and military credits for Malaysia from \$7 million to \$12 million.

FAO reports progress against locust plague

ROME, May 9 (R) — Major progress has been made in beating back a plague of locusts in the Horn of Africa and the Middle East, according to a senior official of the U.N.'s Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). "Many victories have been won since you last met in November but the war is not yet over," Assistant Director-General D.F.R. Bonner told the agency's Locust Control Committee. "Intensive campaigns along the Red Sea coasts of Sudan and Saudi Arabia in the winter of 1978-79 achieved complete success," he added. In eastern Ethiopia, one of the sources of the plague, some swarms may be on the move but only small locust populations have been reported, he said. In India and Pakistan, excellent deforestation programmes prevented a major reinvasion of the two countries by locusts, Mr. Bonner added.

U.S. 'grossly underestimated' inflation rate

WASHINGTON, May 9 (R) — Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal said yesterday the Carter administration had grossly underestimated its budget prediction of a 7.4 per cent inflation rate this year. "It will be at the 8.5 per cent level — perhaps more than that," he told a Senate appropriations subcommittee. Mr. Blumenthal said that the gross national product — total goods and services produced — this year would be about two per cent, perhaps lower. The projected figure was 2.3 to 2.4 per cent. He predicted that "more bad price news is possible in the months to come" but said the administration would not force a recession with high unemployment to force down the inflation rate nor call for mandatory wage and price controls. The administration's voluntary wage and price guidelines were being tightened, he added.

Turkish professor awarded UNESCO prize

PARIS, May 9 (R) — Turkish Professor Murtaz Soysal of Ankara University was yesterday awarded the first UNESCO prize for human rights teaching. Professor Soysal received a gold medal and cheque for \$2,000 at the Paris headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation. He said the award was an honour to his country and to all Turks who fought for human rights.

'Rebel' pro-Palestinian prelate will obey Pope

VATICAN CITY, May 9 (R)—A rebellious pro-Palestinian Catholic prelate from Jerusalem has agreed to obey the Pope and not take actions harmful to Israel, the Vatican said yesterday. Monsignor Hilari Capucci, jailed for 12 years in 1974 by the Israelis for gun-running and released after the personal intervention of Pope Paul VI three years later, made the promises to the Holy See, a spokesman said.

The prelate, formerly patriarchal vicar of Melchite-rite Catholics, gave his assurances after breaking an earlier agreement between the Holy See and Israel that he would not return to the Middle East after his release.

In recent months, he attended a meeting involving the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in Damascus and also visited revolutionary leaders in Iran although he was meant to be working in Latin America.

Yesterday's move followed an earlier announcement that Pope John Paul had appointed Monsignor Capucci pastoral visitor to the Greek Catholic (Melchite) communities in Western Europe. Vatican sources said the appointment amounted to a declaration of peace between the Vatican and Monsignor Capucci. "He declared his readiness to accept all that the Pope might decide with respect to him," a Vatican spokesman said.

But Monsignor Capucci declared that his ties to Jerusalem had not been cut forever. "You should note that I am a 'visitor' which means that my post is temporary," declared in an interview. "My ties to Jerusalem are not severed."

Aldo Moro's murder unsolved year later

ROME, May 9 (R) — Former Premier Aldo Moro was murdered one year ago today, but no one knows for sure who killed the respected elder statesman and Italy is still living in the shadow of the guerrillas' guns.

The anniversary of Mr. Moro's death was marked by ceremonies throughout the country as Italians recalled the moment his body was found dumped in a car in central Rome. The discovery ended 55 days of drama and tragedy perhaps unparalleled in postwar Italy.

"A year has passed since that terrible day," said Mr. Benigno Zaccagnini, the secretary of Mr. Moro's Christian Democrat Party. "And yet for us today is still May 9, 1978. The wound has not healed, and the emptiness has not been filled."

Mr. Moro, five times Italy's prime minister, was found curled up in the back of a tiny red Renault with 11 bullets in his chest. The car had gone unnoticed until a telephone call from his murderers told his family where the body could be found.

In the last month a series of police swoops has picked up guerrillas who may have made the telephone call. Some 40 Red Brigades members are under arrest in connection with the murder but none has been brought to trial.

Nobody knows for certain who planned the kidnap nor who took part in it. Nobody knows where Mr. Moro was held prisoner. Nor why or where he was killed, nor on whose orders.

Since Mr. Moro's death, there have been no more political kidnappings, but 37 Italians have died in guerrilla attacks. At least 65 others have been injured. There is a risk, as a Rome newspaper put it, of "a permanent, endemic state of guerrilla warfare."

By Jeremy Morgan

BRUSSELS — The long-awaited European Monetary System (EMS) has finally come into force, linking most of the currencies in the European Economic Community (EEC). Considering the complexity of the scheme, it has so far jogged along fairly comfortably. Nevertheless, the first month of operation provided at least one major surprise.

The currencies which might have been expected to hold steady as EMS got under way tended to lose out to the currencies belonging to those countries which at the beginning of this year were still decidedly coy about joining EMS.

EEC countries with strong economies and low inflation rates, such as West Germany, saw the value of their currencies against other EMS units drift downwards.

Conversely, at the other end of the scale, EEC countries with wobbly economies and high inflation—most notably Italy—have watched their currencies set the pace at the expense of the traditionally less vulnerable currencies.

Great things are expected of EMS, a complex system of checks and balances designed to achieve stability in exchange rates between the currencies—and provide a currency bloc for protection against fluctuations in other leading currencies such as the U.S. dollar and the Japanese yen.

More ambitiously, those who over the years have carried the torch for a United States of Europe hope that EMS will be the first step towards a common unit of currency for the EEC, which is a

Surprise twist in Europe's 'Supersnake'

very necessary prerequisite.

For the moment at least, such ideas are neither here nor there since Britain, alone among the Nine, has yet to join EMS. Ironically, it now looks as if the British pound would have gained in the long run during the early days of the system. Britain's absence instead has helped create problems for its fellow-members of the Common Market in operating the currency ring.

The underlying intention of the system is to co-ordinate as closely as possible the foreign exchange policies used by central banks controlling individual EMS currencies, so that those currencies do not get too far out of line with each other.

EMS is centred on specific "central" exchange rates set for each of the eight currencies against each of the other seven. (The exception is Italy, permitted a six per cent band because of the lira's inherent instability.) These margins in turn set out minimum levels, or "floors", and maximums ("ceilings") for exchange rates between pairs of currencies within the EMS. These are the "intervention points".

Most currencies are allowed to trade within a band of 2.25 per cent above and below its fixed "central" exchange rate against each of the other seven. (The exception is Italy, permitted a six per cent band because of the lira's inherent instability.) These margins in turn set out minimum levels, or "floors", and maximums ("ceilings") for exchange rates between pairs of currencies within the EMS. These are the "intervention points".

Once a currency reaches its "intervention" point, central bank activity is triggered off to prevent it from either rising or falling beyond its EMS limits.

In simple terms, the banks will generally support a currency sitting on its "floor", by buying it in the amount required to restore its parity. A currency bouncing up at its "ceiling" will generally be sold to bring it down.

If just two currencies are involved, then what virtually amounts to a straight swap might take place, with the central banks doing their business in the currency which needs market support.

When the Belgian franc recently slipped to its "floor" against Denmark's krone—or, more accurately, the Danish currency hit its Belgian franc "ceiling"—central banks purchased francs until order was restored.

To date, EMS has got under way without any major mishaps. However, things have not quite turned out the way some foreign exchange observers had thought likely.

In a well-ordered economic world, the Belgo-Danish deal might have worked the other way round, with the franc bumping up against the krone, since Belgium's inflation rate of four per cent is among the best in the EEC, and rather more impressive than Denmark's seven per cent.

Denmark's more evident inflationary weakness might have

The early stages of Europe's long-awaited new Monetary System have already produced one odd paradox — the Common Market countries with the strongest economies and lowest inflation rates have seen the value of their currencies drift downwards against those of the economically weaker members.

been expected to undermine the krone against a currency backed by a more stable economy, such as the Belgian franc. However, such immaculate economic logic has not worked out in EMS so far.

In fact, it had been the Italian lira which has led the way — although Italy's inflation rate of 13 per cent a year is the highest in the EEC. The lira has consistently been at the top of daily EMS fluctuation tables, having before Easter gained around three per cent against the weakest currency in EMS to date, the Belgian franc.

Had it not been for Italy's special six per cent fluctuation margin, there would have been intervention selling of lire already on a substantial scale to bring the Italian currency off the top and back in line.

France, which early this year delayed joining EMS over farm price concessions, principally

German mark.

In addition, money managers have spotted the attractive interest rates which some EMS countries have adopted as part of their monetary and fiscal policies. These tend to be the countries with high inflation rates, where tight credit is required of necessity. Hence the drift towards deposits in these currencies—and strong demand for their traditionally weaker currencies.

Complicating the picture still further has been the absence of sterling. EMS currencies are not only linked by fluctuation margins between each other: they are also linked closely to an artificial EEC currency, the European Currency Unit (ECU), and can only trade within specific limits against ECUs.

Unfortunately for the EMS partners, ECUs are based on a collective value of all nine EEC currencies—and sterling has been trading actively and strongly against virtually all other leading currencies.

Against the ECU, sterling had by Easter advanced by two per cent since the start of EMS alone. But sterling's advance on the foreign exchanges has also helped push the collective value of the ECU upwards, since the pound is an important element of the currency "basket" upon which ECU values are based.

This has had the effect of depreciating the value of some EMS currencies in ECU terms. With the pound remaining outside the sys-

tem, EMS central bankers have decided to ignore sterling-induced "excessive" fluctuations in the value of ECUs—and thus disregard any apparent slides in ECU quotations for some EMS currencies.

With the wide disparity between EEC inflation rates likely to persist, the chances are that the weakness of some currencies, which might otherwise be expected to do well in EMS, will probably continue for some time.

Dr. Otmar Emminger, president of West Germany's Bundesbank, has predicted that it will be years rather than months before divergent inflation rates converge and force changes in EMS exchange rates. But the EEC Commission in Brussels has warned the EMS will not work properly until European inflation rates are brought more closely into line.

It is suggested that the one "maverick" currency likely to dictate the short-term future of EMS is sterling—the one EEC currency outside the system. The catch is that Britain does much of its trade, and hence a large slice of its foreign exchange transactions, with its partners in the EEC—all of them now trying to work EMS.

It is argued with some force that by any logic, sterling should already be in, both for its sake and for that of the "Supersnake", as EMS has been dubbed in some quarters. Against that, it is argued that sterling has probably done better so far by staying out.

However, with sterling not above its theoretical EMS band, some British officials suggest the EMS membership might be the best way to ensure some stability for the pound in the long run. Ironically, one of the British arguments against joining EMS was that the system could overval the pound.

This has evidently happened to EMS or not. With sterling now high, it might now be difficult and painful for Britain to join EMS late in the day. But seems to have little other choice as a member of the EEC, an EMS founder.

With the mark at low levels, West Germans might well prefer sterling to enter EMS at highest "central" rate possible ensure that the pound does jolt the system too hard should continue to rise.

Ironically, during the months it took France to make its mind to join and Britain decide to stay out, all the currencies expected to take behaved rather as if EMS already in force. It was suspected that EMS central bankers tacitly agreed to try the proposed scheme out while the political haggled over their differences.

Since EMS formally came into operation, some wrinkles begun to emerge. But Britain expected to join—however reluctantly. That day has yet to come and on current indications unlikely to offer much immediate benefit for either the British or its currency.